Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 167567 ORIGIN ARA-14

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EB/IDF/OIA:DGRANT (INFO)

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TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:BDIS, HO

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THE DEL WEBB CASE

REF: (A) STATE 155645 (B) TEGUCIGALPA 2952 (C) TEGUCIGALPA 3062

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, IN FURTHER ELABORATION OF REFTEL (A) DEL WEBB VICE-PRESIDENT, JOHN P. BYRNE, TODAY (6/30) INFORMED DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHELTON AND HONDURAS DESK OFFICER THAT HE HAD TALKED LAST WEEK TO SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUYE, CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS. BYRNE REPORTS THAT INOUYE IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE SENATE AID APPROPRIATIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BILL TO BE SUBMITTED BY SENATOR DECONCINI WHICH WOULD MAKE ASSISTANCE TO HONDURAS CONDITIONAL ON GOH ACTION TO SETTLE DEL WEBB CLAIM.

2. BYRNE IS NOT MOVED BY STATE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY JUDGMENT (REFTELS (B) AND (C) THAT PRESSURE AT THIS TIME COULD REVERSE ANY FAVORABLE ELEMENTS CONTAINED IN

GOH SETTLEMENT DECISION APPARENTLY NOW IN FINAL INTERNAL GOH CLEARANCE PROCESS. BYRNE'S FOCUS IS ON SIX YEARS WHICH HAVE ELAPSED SINCE FIRST CLAIM WAS SUBMITTED, SIX MONTHS WHICH HAVE ELAPSED SINCE LATEST CLAIM, AND HIS

PERCEIVED DANGER OF NO GOH DECISION AT ALL IF HE EASES CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES.

3. NEITHER AID NOR STATE HAS CONFIRMED THE ATTITUDE ATTRIBUTED TO SENATOR INOUYE BY MR. BYRNE. VANCE

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